

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

KATIA MERAZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katia Meraz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Katia Meraz is a 10th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Katia Meraz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Katia Meraz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING ANTHONY  
DEFFENBAUGH**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Anthony Deffenbaugh. Anthony is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 865, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Anthony has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Anthony has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Anthony has earned the rank of Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Anthony has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Anthony redesigned the trailer for the Blue Springs High School marching band, including the welding, fabricating and assembly of the parts needed to properly protect the instruments during transportation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Anthony Deffenbaugh for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on March 11, 2014, I was absent for rollcall vote 116. Had I been present for rollcall vote 116, on passage of H.R. 3979, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING PAST AND CURRENT  
AFRICAN AMERICAN UNITED  
STATES SENATORS**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our past and current African American Senators.

Following the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment, and beginning with the Reconstruction Era of our great nation, nine African Americans have served in the upper chamber of the United States Congress. Yet, the 113th Congress marked the first time in our nation's history that two African Americans served concurrently in the Senate.

In celebration of Black History Month, U.S. Senator TIM SCOTT of South Carolina brought together a panel of past and present African American Senators. The Honorable James H. Billington, Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun, the Honorable Roland Burris, the Honorable William "Mo" Cowan, as well as newly elected Senator COREY BOOKER discussed their individual paths to Congress. In their deliveries, it was clear that we have come a long way. Each of their unique stories represents the progress that this country has made.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Senator SCOTT for hosting such an important event. It was truly an honor to be in attendance.

KARLA LOPEZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Karla Lopez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Karla Lopez is an 8th grader at Wheat Ridge 5-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Karla Lopez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and

develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Karla Lopez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent during the week of February 24, 2014. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Rollcall No. 63, H.R. 1211, "yea"; rollcall No. 64, H.R. 1123, "yea"; rollcall No. 65, Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule, "nay"; rollcall No. 66, H. Res. 487, "no"; rollcall No. 67, H.R. 1944, "yea"; rollcall No. 68, Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 3865, "yea"; rollcall No. 69, Final Passage of H.R. 3865, "no"; rollcall No. 70, Agreeing to the Polis of Colorado Amendment to the Title, "aye"; rollcall No. 71, Rothfus/Barr Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 72, Connolly Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 73, Jackson-Lee Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 74, Jackson-Lee/Johnson Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 75, George Miller/Courtney Amendment No. 10, "aye"; rollcall No. 76, George Miller/Courtney Amendment No. 11, "aye."

Rollcall No. 77, Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 2804, "aye"; rollcall No. 78, Final Passage of H.R. 2804, "no"; rollcall No. 79, Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule, "nay"; rollcall No. 80, H. Res. 492, "no"; rollcall No. 81, Rigell Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 82, DeSantiis Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 83, Moore Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 84, Motion to Recommit H.R. 3193, "aye"; rollcall No. 85, Final Passage of H.R. 3193, "no"; rollcall No. 86, Cummings Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 87, Connolly Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 88, Jackson-Lee Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 89, Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 899, "aye"; rollcall No. 90, Final Passage of H.R. 899, "no."

HONORING JACK KNIPP

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jack Knipp. Jack is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 865, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Jack has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jack has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jack has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Jack has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jack led fellow members of his swim team in putting together a class for basic swim lessons, providing a valuable life lesson to the children he taught.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jack Knipp for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RESPONSIBLY AND PROFESSIONALLY INVIGORATING DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2641) to provide for improved coordination of agency actions in the preparation and adoption of environmental documents for permitting determinations, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2641, which would limit public input in the federal decision-making process and short-circuit responsible review of taxpayer-funded projects.

This legislation would create a new, convoluted review process for certain projects, setting rigid, arbitrary deadlines for even the most complex and hazardous plans and deeming them approved if the deadlines are not met. It allows for clear conflict of interest by giving project sponsors the authority to do their own environmental review. Finally, it confuses the process and risks litigation by blurring lines between state and federal law, and agency and private sector authority.

Complicating our public input process will not jumpstart construction projects. The only way to do that is by replenishing the Highway Trust Fund to repair our crumbling roads and bridges, and investing in the backlog of already-approved water resources projects that are on hold due to lack of funds. I urge my colleagues to support infrastructure investment and vote no on this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JAMIE GRODSKY PRIZE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SCHOLARSHIP

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the fourth anniversary of the Jamie Grodsky Prize for Environmental Scholarship. It is awarded annually to a George Washington law student who contributes an original

paper to the environmental law field. The award is given in memory of Jamie Grodsky, a law professor at George Washington University, who passed away on May 22, 2010.

There is no doubt in my mind that legal scholarship in the field of environmental law plays a critical role in developing innovative ideas and thoughts to help preserve our citizens' quality of life, health, and safety. As a result, the annual award of the Jamie Grodsky Prize serves as not only a fitting tribute to Professor Grodsky, but helps preserve and protect our environment and our planet.

The Grodsky Prize is funded through the generosity of her family and friends, and is awarded annually to a George Washington law student who contributes an original paper to the environmental law field, as judged by a panel of experts. Tomorrow will mark the fourth time this award has been given. This year's recipient is Molly Masterton, who wrote on "Promoting Marine and Hydrokinetic Energy and Managing Environmental Risk: Toward an Adaptive Management Strategy."

Past Grodsky Award recipients include: In 2011, Renee Martin-Nagle for her paper titled "Fossil Aquifers: A Common Heritage of Mankind."

In 2012, Lieutenant Commander Jonathan Dowling's paper titled "Improving Energy Security with the Great Green Fleet: The Case for Transitioning from Ethanol to Drop-In Renewable Fuels."

In 2013, Joel Meister, for his paper titled "Sunny Dispositions: Modernizing Investment Tax Credit Recapture Rules for Solar Energy Project Finance After the Stimulus."

We look forward to the award of many more Grodsky prizes to deserving George Washington University students.

The fourth anniversary of the award is also an opportunity to recognize the life of Professor Grodsky, a preeminent member of the Nation's environmental bar, whose legal imprint continues to this day. Although time and space limitations do not permit me to itemize all of Jamie's contributions and unique talents and gifts, I would like to note a few highlights (many of Jamie's contributions were referenced in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD by Rep. MILLER on September 15, 2010):

Prof. Grodsky left an indelible mark on all three branches of government, countless law students at the University of Minnesota and George Washington University, and the environmental and legal community as a whole.

Jamie served the Congress initially as an analyst with the then Official of Technology Assessment, and later as counsel to the Natural Resources Committee in the House, and the Judiciary Committee in the Senate.

She served as Senior Advisor to the General Counsel of the Environmental Protection Agency during the Clinton Administration.

She served as clerk to the Chief Judge of Ninth Circuit, the Hon. Proctor Hug, who referred to Jamie as "the most multi-talented person I have ever met."

Jamie was dedicated to environmental causes, acting as Educational Director of the San Francisco Oceanic Society and she conducted marine research at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Massachusetts.

After leaving government service, Jamie dedicated herself to passing along her passion for the environment through her work in academia, eventually becoming a tenured Professor of Environmental Law at George Washington University.

Although Jamie's passing was a tremendous loss to us all, I am pleased that that her legacy is continuing to inspire the next generation of attorneys through the annual award of the Jamie Grodsky Prize.

JOHNNIE DINA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Johnnie Dina for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Johnnie Dina is an 11th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Johnnie Dina is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Johnnie Dina for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

ELECTRICITY SECURITY AND AFFORDABILITY ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3826) to provide direction to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the establishment of standards for emissions of any greenhouse gas from fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I agree with my dear friend Chairman WHITFIELD that we must provide clarity on EPA's authority to regulate greenhouse gases. However, as we have seen all too often in the 113th Congress, the legislation before us does nothing to address the underlying problem. Instead, this bill simply blocks the EPA from taking action without providing any alternative solution.

My first problem with this legislation is that it creates a peculiar and entirely new process for regulations under the Clean Air Act. This bill would take a long-established and reasonably well understood and turn it upside down to the great detriment of all of those in industry who are seeking certainty. This bill would then eliminate the delegation of rulemaking authority to EPA and set up Congress as a regulatory agency. Traditionally, Congress has given EPA the authority to develop regulations to address particular issues. I'm concerned that we may be setting a troubling precedent that allows regulations to be set without extensive public comments or technical data and input from industry and stakeholders.

Second, as I have seen time and time again this Congress, H.R. 3826 attempts to address an issue without dealing with the underlying law or providing an alternative solution. This bill does not amend the Clean Air Act to address the regulation of greenhouse gases but rather abolishes over 40 years of precedent by establishing an entirely new regulatory process. If Congress truly wants to legislate on this issue and pass legislation that can be signed by the President, let's put forward a comprehensive, bipartisan solution with both industry and other stakeholder support. I don't see anything in H.R. 3826 that approaches compromise or resembles an honest solution to the problems I've outlined.

Once again we have a bill before us that will pass with little bipartisan support, won't pass the Senate, and won't be signed by the President. While I understand this is an election year, we should be coming together to find workable solutions that can make meaningful change instead of creating more partisan rhetoric.

#### HONORING DONOVAN CHAMBERS

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Donovan Chambers. Donovan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 865, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Donovan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Donovan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Donovan has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Donovan has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Donovan led a food drive at his church, St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, on behalf of the food pantry for Sacred Heart—Guadalupe Catholic Church in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Donovan Chambers for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MS. ANN LALLY OF SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

##### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of my district's finest residents and greatest contributors: Ann R. Lally, of Salem, New Hampshire. Next week, Ms. Lally, who serves as President of Salem Co-operative Bank, will be honored with the Chief John P. Ganley Community Service Award, which

recognizes outstanding individuals who exhibit great concern, involvement, and leadership in the town of Salem in New Hampshire's southern tier.

The award is named in honor of John P. Ganley, who served the Salem community as police chief before his death in 1989. Ms. Lally honors Chief Ganley's memory each day through her tireless efforts to strengthen the community, both through her work at the bank and on the many local boards on which she serves.

Over 28 years at Salem Co-operative, Ms. Lally has helped to support countless children and other community members through the bank's charitable wing, the Salem Community Benefit, which provides funding for education, youth development, and other community agencies. As a board member of the Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce, she was instrumental in the creation of the Hidden Jewel Awards, which honor deserving women for their contributions to the Salem area; and as president of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Salem, she helped lead a capital campaign to help fund renovations and expansion at the community center.

Through her dedicated service to these and other organizations, Ms. Lally has made Salem a stronger, healthier, and happier place to live, work, and raise a family. On March 17, the Greater Salem Boys and Girls Club will honor her with the prestigious Ganley Award. As the Salem community celebrates Ms. Lally, I urge all Granite Staters and all Americans to join them in honoring her many contributions to our state and our Nation.

#### IN MEMORIAM OF THE HONORABLE BUCKNER MELTON, SR.

##### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a generous community leader and outstanding public servant, and friend of longstanding, the Honorable Buckner F. "Buck" Melton, Sr., Former Mayor of Macon, Georgia. Sadly, Mr. Melton passed away on Wednesday, March 5, 2014. His passing leaves a tremendous void in the hearts of his family, friends and the Macon, Georgia community.

On Saturday, March 8, 2014, friends and family gathered to celebrate the life and career of this influential man at a memorial service held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Macon.

Buck Melton was born on October 24, 1923, in Arlington, Georgia to the Reverend and Mrs. Henry Martin Melton. He grew up in Moultrie, Georgia, but moved to Macon to attend Mercer University. He went on to graduate from Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law and began his career as an attorney in Macon.

After serving as city attorney during the 1960s, Attorney Melton was elected to the office of Mayor in 1975. During his one term as Mayor, Mr. Melton helped to establish Mercer University's School of Medicine as well as the city's local option sales tax, which is still used today. Mr. Melton was also particularly proud of the seventy miles of roads paved in Macon during his tenure.

The World War II and Korean War veteran loved his adopted hometown of Macon and he served his community in many capacities. He was president of the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce in 1971, president of the Macon Bar Association in 1973 and he served on the board of the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority, among the numerous other civic organizations he belonged to during his life.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." Buck Melton left behind a legacy of leadership and kindness that is still felt throughout the Macon, Georgia community today.

Buck is survived by his loving wife of sixty years, Tommie; children, Leigh and Buckner, Jr.; grandson, Grady; nephews, Tim, Hank and Will; and niece, Mary Ann.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the Macon, Georgia community in honoring the life of Former Mayor Buckner Melton, Sr. He will truly be missed, but his legacy will not soon be forgotten.

#### JOANNA MOSMAN

##### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud JoAnna Mosman for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. JoAnna Mosman is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by JoAnna Mosman is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to JoAnna Mosman for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

#### HONORING THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS

##### HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 102nd anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the USA.

On this day in 1912, Juliette 'Daisy' Gordon Low officially registered the organization's first eighteen Girl Scouts in Savannah, Georgia.

Since that first meeting, more than 59 million young women have been inspired, challenged, and empowered as Girl Scout alumnae.

Thanks to Daisy Gordon's vision, millions of girls have learned the values of personal responsibility, conservation, friendship, community, and teamwork.

Girl Scouts carry these important lessons with them for the rest of their lives.

The Girl Scouts and I share a birthday and on this Girl Scout Day, I applaud the Girl Scouts for affording millions of girls across the country with the opportunity to be part of something much bigger than themselves.

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OBSERVING INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of International Women's Day, March 8—recognized by the United Nations. Today, we celebrate the social, political, economic, cultural and intellectual achievements of women around the globe. The United Nations' theme for this year's international recognition—"Equality for women is progress for all"—emphasizes empowerment of women and women's full enjoyment of human rights and stresses the vital role of women as agents of change in our society. Today, courageous women like Bui Thi Minh Hang need our immediate attention.

Two years ago on this occasion, I stood on the House floor recognizing and advocating for Ms. Hang, who was sentenced without trial for participating in peaceful protests related to the Eastern Sea. She was eventually released but face ongoing harassment from the Vietnamese authorities. Recently, Ms. Hang and her friends were brutally beaten and unlawfully detained while on their way to visit a former prisoner of conscience. It has been almost one month and Ms. Hang is still detained without any due process for "obstructing traffic". I am once again recognizing Ms. Hang for her ongoing efforts to for social and political issues in Vietnam. Ms. Hang has inspired many Vietnamese women, youth and fellow human rights activists.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in recognizing International Women's Day and women like Bui Thi Minh Hang who are advocating for freedom and democracy in their communities, and call on governments like Vietnam to immediately and unconditionally release Bui Thi Minh Hang and all prisoners of conscience.

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HONORING TOM CLEMENTS

**HON. CORY GARDNER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Clements of Monument, Colorado. Mr. Clements served for two years as Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Corrections and made many improvements to the prisons of Colorado before he tragically lost his life in March of 2013.

During his time at the Colorado Department of Corrections, Mr. Clements had an enor-

mous impact on Colorado's prison system. He implemented reforms to benefit staff and inmates and developed innovative solutions to some of the Department's most persistent problems. Mr. Clements also worked to improve the lives of Coloradans both inside and outside of the prison system by providing inmates with the counseling and skills necessary to become successful members of society upon release. In rehabilitating these individuals, Mr. Clements helped create a better future for our state.

The loss of Mr. Clements has been a loss for all of Colorado. His kindness, compassion, and dedication to public service must never be forgotten. Please join me in remembering this extraordinary man.

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IN HONOR OF MASTER SERGEANT  
DAVID POIRIER

**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I honor the life of Master Sergeant David Poirier, a New Hampshire National Guardsman who passed away late last month while serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Master Sergeant Poirier was an exemplary Guardsman, a long-serving Postmaster in his hometown of Atkinson, and a great family man. His service reminds us of the sacrifice our National Guardsmen and their families make on behalf of our state and our country.

In recent years, we have asked these brave men and women to leave friends and family at home as they supported Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, and performed humanitarian missions around the world. We must not forget how much our Guardsmen give to keep us all safe, prosperous, and free. May Master Sergeant Poirier rest in peace, and may we honor him by celebrating the service and sacrifice of all those who wear the uniform each and every day.

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UNITED STATES PARALYMPIANS  
FROM THIRD DISTRICT OF COLO-  
RADO TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the two outstanding athletes from Colorado's 3rd district who are competing in the 2014 Winter Paralympic Games in Sochi, Russia. With their dedication, passion, and spirit, these two women are fine examples of the best our nation has to offer, and they serve as role models for young people around the world. To formally acknowledge their distinction and excellence, I stand to recognize these athletes from Colorado's 3rd district:

Melanie Schwartz of Aspen, Colorado, will represent the United States in Alpine Skiing. Ms. Schwartz began her Paralympic career in her home country of Canada during the 2010 Vancouver games. In 2012 and 2013, Ms. Schwartz chose to represent the United States in two World Cups, placing first in the slalom

event in 2013. Earlier this year, she took second place at the 2014 U.S. National Championships for downhill. When she isn't representing us on the mountain, she spends much of her time giving back to her community through volunteer services, including serving as a ski instructor for children with disabilities.

Heidi Jo Duce of Ouray, Colorado, will take to the slopes to compete in the challenging snowboard cross events. Ms. Duce has rapidly become a champion athlete since she won the U.S. National Championships in 2013, her first year of competing professionally. She is currently ranked second in the world for para-snowboard cross. An avid outdoorswoman, she enjoys all that Colorado has to offer, including rock climbing, mountain biking, backpacking, and hunting.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize these fine athletes. Together, they show us what determination and passion can accomplish. Ms. Schwartz and Ms. Duce continue to inspire all of us and it is an honor to congratulate them on their extraordinary careers as they represent the best of America to the world.

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JESUS CORTEZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jesus Cortez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jesus Cortez is an 8th grader at Everitt Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jesus Cortez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jesus Cortez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MIKE MCINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 115, 116, 117, I was unavoidably detained because of airplane mechanical issues on my return trip to Washington. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on each of these suspension votes.

IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 2804 AND  
H.R. 899

### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2804, the so-called "All Economic Regulations are Transparent (ALERT) Act and H.R. 899, the so-called "Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act."

This week, the House took up a series of rehashed bills—under the guise of the "Stop Government Abuse Week"—that would limit the ability of federal agencies to enforce commonsense rules and regulations. While supporters of H.R. 2804 and H.R. 899 claim they are needed to curb overregulation, in reality, they would prevent federal agencies from doing their jobs and working to ensure there are safeguards in place to protect consumer health and safety.

My Republican colleagues contend that the two bills before us are a response to the "tsunami" of regulations under the Obama Administration. However, this is simply not true. In fact, federal agencies under President Obama have issued significantly less rules during his first four years in office when compared to President Bush's first term. Moreover, the ALERT Act would actually create more red tape by imposing unnecessary new procedures on agencies and adding over 60 new barriers in the federal rulemaking process.

Much like the ALERT Act, H.R. 899 would also introduce uncertainty into agency decision-making and undermine the ability of agencies to provide critical public health and safety protections. It would also weaken our democracy by giving powerful special interests and private industry an unfair advantage in the rulemaking process. Specifically, it would require agencies to consult with private industry—but not most other stakeholders, such as public health or food safety experts—before proposing rules.

I was disappointed that amendments offered by Representative CUMMINGS and Representative CONNOLLY were not adopted. Rep. CUMMINGS' amendment would have overturned a provision in the bill that directly compromises the autonomy of independent regulatory agencies—including the CFPB, SEC, and CPSC—by requiring that they report proposed rules to the OMB. Rep. CONNOLLY's amendment would have simply evened the playing field and ensured that public interest organizations and other stakeholders are provided the same opportunity for consultation afforded to special interest groups and private industry under this bill.

Over the last four years, President Obama has implemented significant reforms to the rulemaking process. In January 2010, the President signed an Executive Order that required agencies to determine if the benefits of proposed rules are justified considering their cost to society. He required an interagency review of overlapping rules and regulation between agencies that may prevent innovation in the private sector and instituted a policy to allow agencies to consider input from affected public and private stakeholders and experts when developing rules and regulations.

There is also a mechanism in place that already requires agencies to adhere to specific

requirements of Federal law before issuing a rule or regulation. The Administrative Procedure Act, the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), and the Congressional Review Act all serve the purpose of making sure that agencies are not overstepping their bounds when issuing rules and enforcing existing regulations.

At a time when Congress should be doing everything it can to create jobs and improve the economy, these bills are nothing but a distraction. They are unnecessary and potentially harmful to the public health and safety. I urge my colleagues to oppose each of them.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker on rollcall No. 117, H.R. 499, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

### DR. STEVEN R. SWANSON TRIBUTE

### HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Steven R. Swanson, a United States Astronaut who will launch on his third trip to the International Space Station (ISS) on March 25 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. Dr. Swanson will spend six months on the station, serving three months as the ISS Commander.

I'm proud to say that Dr. Swanson lives in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, in Steamboat Springs, with his wife, Mary and their three children. Dr. Swanson attended the University of Colorado, where he received a degree in Engineering Physics. He has also received both Masters and Doctorate degrees in Computer Science.

Since joining NASA in 1998, Dr. Swanson has led a remarkable career, earning the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal, the Johnson Space Center Certificate of Accommodation, and the Flight Engineering Award. He travelled on the space shuttle to help assemble the ISS in June of 2007 and again in March of 2009. It is fitting that he now becomes the station's commanding officer.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize such a distinguished ambassador of the sciences. I rise today to thank him for his continued service in the name of exploration and congratulate him on his truly remarkable career.

### KASSIDY LINDLEY

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kassidy

Lindley for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kassidy Lindley is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kassidy Lindley is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kassidy Lindley for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

### CONDEMNING VIOLATION OF UKRAINIAN SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

SPEECH OF

### HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution.

Just today, a CNN camera crew reported evidence that Russian troops are literally digging in on the Crimean peninsula, including the installation of minefields along the new, illegal border they have created with the Ukraine. The world community cannot stand idly by in the face of this unprovoked Russian aggression against another sovereign member of the United Nations. The House, by passing this resolution, will be taking an important step towards that end.

There are several provisions in this resolution calling on the new Ukrainian government to implement measures to end political corruption, respect the human rights and civil liberties of ethnic minorities in the Ukraine, and so on. These and other reforms are essential for Ukraine to truly consolidate its revolution and ensure a transition to a truly open, democratic society.

But the people of the Ukraine will find it difficult to maintain their freedom and independence if their largest neighbor continues its illegal occupation of the Crimea, threatens additional areas of eastern Ukraine with invasion, and takes steps—overt and covert—to undermine the new Ukrainian government. The resolution before the House today calls upon the Obama administration to boycott the upcoming G8 summit and work with our partners to expel Russia from the G8. Given that the Russian government refuses to recognize Ukraine's new government and is proceeding with a sham "referendum" on Crimea's future, I believe the Administration must take the steps called for in this resolution. I also call upon the Administration to keep the Congress fully and currently informed on any indications that further Russian aggression may be attempted elsewhere in the Ukraine.

There is one amendment to this resolution that the committee adopted that concerns me, and it involves a call to increase U.S. natural gas exports. Simply, the U.S. does not currently possess the ability to export LNG to

Ukraine or other European allies, and export facilities currently under construction will not be operational until late 2015, at the earliest. It is opportunistic and frankly not based in fact, to have natural gas companies and their allies in Congress using this crisis as a catalyst for increased LNG exports.

Further, the U.S. does not have a state run energy conglomerate like Russia, and we cannot simply turn our energy exports up or down following a single executive decree. LNG export terminals cost billions and the companies making these investments will not proceed with their construction unless they have already secured LNG supply contracts, typically with Asian countries, like Japan, China, and India, where high natural gas prices will result in the greatest profits. If our concern is ensuring Ukraine has reliable energy sources, we should be talking to our European partners about how best to accomplish that goal.

Again, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

#### HONORING THE MEMBERS OF STILLWATER TRINITY LU- THERAN CHURCH

#### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor members of Stillwater Trinity Lutheran Church and acknowledge their recent efforts to feed more than half a million people in a community food drive called "Meals from the Heart." This ambitious initiative will provide nutritious meals to be distributed through a variety of organizations from the Saint Croix Valley all the way to Tanzania.

"Meals from the Heart" is a community-led, full-scale mission to address hunger—both here at home and around the world. Beginning in 2008, Trinity Lutheran Church, located in Stillwater, Minnesota, has partnered with churches, schools, nonprofits, and local businesses, including Andersen Windows, to provide meals for those in need. Working together, their benevolent efforts have produced impressive results. During the past five years, 10,500 volunteers have packed more than 3 million meals that have been delivered to diverse locations, ranging from a church in Saint Paul to an orphanage in Haiti.

Access to affordable, nutritious food is fundamental to the health and economic success of communities. Unfortunately, for far too many, access to nutritious food is not dependable. Food insecurity is rising at an alarming rate, causing regional conflicts and forcing 1 billion people worldwide to struggle with chronic hunger and disease. In America, economic strain from the Great Recession continues to place significant financial hardships on families looking to put food on the table.

Just last month, our nation celebrated the 50th Anniversary of President Johnson's "War on Poverty." While President Johnson's call to action has resulted in profound change for a generation of Americans, our nation still must confront the stark reality that poverty, hunger, and income inequality persist today. To be successful in the fight against hunger, it will take collective action between public, private,

and community forces—just as we have seen with the "Meals from the Heart" program.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride I submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, recognizing the benevolent actions of local volunteers and businesses who have collaborated to make a difference in combating hunger across the globe and in our own neighborhoods in the United States.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, on March 12, 2014, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 118. Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on ordering the previous question.

#### WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

#### HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DOMINIQUE GELIN

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Dominique Gelin. Born and raised in Miami, Florida, Dominique is the proud daughter of immigrant parents. She has worked to shape policy and mobilize members of her community.

Dominique moved to Orlando to attend the University of Central Florida in the fall of 2008. It was there that she got her first taste of organizing her peers, encouraging them to vote and become a part of the process. After receiving her Bachelor's degree, she continued her community service, becoming a Youth Outreach Director and extending her work to high school students and young professionals.

Over the years, Dominique has had the opportunity to work with organizations like Ruth's List Florida, the National Congress of Black Women, and most recently, as an Aide at the Florida House of Representatives. In 2011, Dominique was awarded the Achievement Award by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women.

She looks forward to continuing her work by advocating for those with the most urgent needs through compassionate leadership.

I am happy to honor Dominique Gelin, during Women's History Month, for her contributions to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP OF SENATOR GERALDINE F. THOMPSON

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Florida Senator Geraldine Thompson. Senator Thompson began serving the people of Florida in 1970 when she worked as a Secretary for State Representative Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry, the first African American female to serve in the Florida House of Representatives. During her time with Representative Cherry, she learned that conditions could be changed and

lives improved through the enactment of legislation.

After working for several years, Senator Thompson enrolled at Florida State University from which she received a M.S. in Communication in 1973. She and her husband moved to Orlando and immediately became active in the Central Florida community. She later became the Assistant to the President at Valencia Community College where she served for 24 years. Among her many accomplishments was the establishment of the "College Reach Out Program." The program enabled thousands of low income and disadvantaged students to fulfill their dream of going to college.

As a public historian, Senator Thompson's passion for history led her to conduct research and compile documents which resulted in the publication of a book, *Black America Series: Orlando, Florida*, in 2003. She is also credited with preserving one of Orlando's unique landmarks, The Wells' Built Hotel, which housed some of America's most prominent citizens, including Justice Thurgood Marshall, Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald, Jackie Robinson and many more. She helped secure funds to convert the hotel into a museum which is known today as The Wells' Built Museum of African American History and Culture.

In November 2006, Thompson was elected to serve as the first African American female to represent District 39 in the Florida House of Representatives. As a state representative, she worked to bring about change, including sponsoring legislation to give pregnant women protection under the Florida Civil Rights Act, and establishing a lottery Ticket for the Cure to benefit breast cancer victims. On November 18, 2008, she was unanimously selected by her legislative colleagues to serve as the Democratic Leader Pro Tempore, the second highest ranking Democrat in the Florida House of Representatives. In November 2012, Thompson was elected to the Florida Senate. In December 2012, Senator Thompson was elected Chairman of the Orange County Legislative Delegation. She is the first female and African-American to hold the position of Chair.

Senator Thompson has been recognized with numerous awards. She received the Florida Education Association's Mary McLeod Bethune Humanitarian Award and the National Education Association's prestigious Mary Hatwood Futrell Award for her outstanding human rights work toward the advancement and education of women and girls. She is also a recipient of the Executive Women Award, the Legislative Award from the American Cancer Society, and the Martin Luther King Award from the Greater Orlando Alliance of Black School Education. She is also an Executive Board Member of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators.

Senator Thompson enjoys every opportunity to give back, such as arranging to have 40 students from Jones High School in Orlando attend the inaugurations of President Barack Obama in 2009 and 2013. She is married to the Honorable Emerson R. Thompson, Jr. She has three children, Laurise, Emerson III, and Elizabeth, and is the proud grandmother of four.

I am happy to honor Senator Geraldine Thompson, during Women's History Month, for her leadership and service to the Central Florida community.

## RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP OF CHERYL GRIEB

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Cheryl Grieb. Cheryl's recently widowed mother moved her and her three brothers from New Jersey to Kissimmee, Florida in 1974. Cheryl's Mom did not come from money and worked very hard in real estate to support her four young children. Following in her mother's footsteps, Cheryl started her career as a realtor at the age of 18. At age 24, she purchased her Mom's real estate company and opened her second real estate company at age 30.

Cheryl's Mom raised her to be active in her community and give back to society. In her twenties, Cheryl was appointed to the Osceola County Parks and Recreation Committee where she served for seven years. While on the Committee, she was involved with the purchase of the Overstreet property which became a 400 acre regional park. In addition to her passion for the environment, Cheryl loves historic structures. She spearheaded a task force that successfully preserved the historic Osceola High School for over five years, until the devastating hurricanes of 1994 finally sealed its fate. Cheryl was also on a task force which formed the first historic district in downtown Kissimmee and began a historic home tour in the downtown area.

As a realtor, Cheryl recognized the need to help low-income individuals to secure affordable housing. Along with a handful of dedicated people, she formed Habitat for Humanity of Osceola County. Habitat has helped numerous people in Osceola County realize the dream of homeownership. Her other community activities include Co-Chairing the Kissimmee Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society. The cause is near and dear to Cheryl's heart as her partner, Patti, is a cancer survivor.

After her election as City Commissioner in 2006, Cheryl became even more involved in her community. She has served as a Board Member of Community Vision, two-time Chair of the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Chair and Council Member of the Tourist Development Council, Chair of the Greater Osceola Partnership or Economic Prosperity, and Director for Florida PACE. In addition, she was instrumental in passing domestic partner benefits for the employees of the City of Kissimmee. This victory won her the "Voice for Equality" award from Equality Florida.

In June of 2007, Cheryl's Mom had an asthma attack that caused a fatal heart attack claiming her life. In response to the tragic loss of her Mom and role model, Cheryl decided to have an event that would showcase downtown Kissimmee and raise funds for the American Heart Association, as both her parents had succumbed to heart attacks. Cheryl's efforts helped create Kissimmee Main Street and the first annual Kiss-im-mee 5K.

This past February was the sixth annual race which brought hundreds of people to downtown Kissimmee and raised thousands of dollars to help combat heart disease.

I am happy to honor Cheryl Grieb, during Women's History Month, for her dedication to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF  
PEGEEN HANRAHAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Pegeen Hanrahan. Pegeen is a registered Professional

Engineer and Principal of Community and Conservation Solutions, LLC. A native and lifelong resident of Gainesville, Florida, she served as its Mayor from 2004 to 2010, and as a City Commissioner from 1996 to 2002, leaving office both times as a result of term limits.

Pegeen has over twenty-five years of experience in environmental remediation, public participation, grant writing, land conservation, and local government finance. With the Trust for Public Land, she has helped develop and pass ten successful bond or sales tax initiatives for land conservation and parks in Florida. She also serves as a leader of Florida's Water and Land Legacy (FWLL), a statewide citizen's initiative to provide sustained funding for land and water conservation and ecosystem management.

With the support of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Pegeen has assisted communities in the adoption of a clean energy program known as feed-in-tariffs (FITs). Gainesville is the first city in the U.S. to implement a solar FIT, also known as a CLEAN (Clean Local Energy Accessible Now) Program. With over 18 megawatts of solar power installed, Gainesville is now in the top ten in installed solar per capita in the U.S. Pegeen also assisted in the adoption of CLEAN programs in Ft. Collins, Colorado and Palo Alto, California. She has spoken on the topic in over 20 communities in the U.S., Canada, Germany, and Brazil.

Pegeen served as an Engineer and Hazardous Materials Program Manager for the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department for over five years, a Senior Vice President of Terra-Com Environmental Consulting for five years, and an Executive Director of Alachua Conservation Trust for three years. She has been the Engineer of Record on numerous remediation projects to remove hazardous contaminants from soil and groundwater. She has also completed work in the fields of landfill design, stormwater management, hazardous waste management, climate change, sustainability, and energy conservation. She has completed projects for over forty different cities, counties, water management districts, state agencies, non-profits, and private clients.

Pegeen has served as President of the Florida League of Mayors and Chair of the Alachua County Library District. In addition, she serves on the boards of Florida State University's LeRoy Collins Institute, the Mayors' Innovation Project, ICLEI-USA: Local Governments for Sustainability, the Children's Movement of Florida, Innovation Gainesville, the Alliance for Renewable Energy, Ruth's List, and Alachua Conservation Trust.

She has received numerous honors, including being named a "Woman Who Makes a Difference" by the Gateway Girl Scout Council, a "Woman of Distinction" by Santa Fe College, and a "Voice for Equality" by Equality Florida. She is also a Florida Audubon "Women in Conservation" award winner and was named "The Female Democratic Elected Official of the Year" three times by the Alachua County Democratic Executive Committee.

A member and former alumni sponsor of the prestigious Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, Pegeen holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Environmental Engineering, and a Bachelor's in Sociology from the University of Florida. She is a member of Leadership

Florida and Florida Blue Key, UF's Leadership Honorary.

Pegeen is married to Tony Malone, a Professional Engineer in the field of civil infrastructure. Together they are the delighted parents of Evyleen Mary (age eight), Quinn Joseph (age seven), and Tess Lucille (age three).

I am happy to honor Pegeen Hanrahan, during Women's History Month, for her many contributions to the state of Florida.

## RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MARY JANE ARRINGTON

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Mary Jane Arrington. Led by her mother's example, Mary Jane has devoted her life to community involvement. Beginning in childhood, Mary Jane served her community through her church, school, 4-H, and Girl Scouts. Public service is something she is very passionate about. She began her public service 44 years ago when she first moved to Osceola County, working in her children's schools and serving on numerous community organization boards and committees.

Elected in 1994, she is the first and is still the only woman to be elected to the Osceola County Board of County Commissioners. Mary Jane was elected by her peers to serve as Commission Chairman and served as a County Commissioner until 2002. During her tenure she was a true visionary working to promote regionalism and improve transportation in the Central Florida region. Mary Jane championed the restoration of Osceola County's historic courthouse and oversaw the construction of the new courthouse and administrative buildings.

After her time on the commission she continued her public service as one of the founding Supervisors of the Toho Water Authority, a regional water authority. She continued in this role until 2008 when she was elected as Osceola County Supervisor of Elections.

Setting milestones is something Mary Jane continues to do in her capacity as the Osceola County Supervisor of Elections. She has worked diligently to enhance the services provided to the voters of Osceola County. By bringing the latest technology to the Elections Office she has streamlined procedures and made the voting process easier and more accessible for voters. Her insightful leadership has received national recognition.

Mary Jane has a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration from the University of Central Florida and is a graduate of Leadership Florida. She is one of only 800 nationally certified elections professionals and, this year, will be designated a Florida Master Certified Election Professional.

Outside of her responsibilities as Supervisor of Elections she is very active in the community where she serves as Chairman of the Osceola County YMCA Board of Directors and as a Member of the Executive Board of the Central Florida YMCA. She is also a very dedicated and involved member of the First United Methodist Church of Kissimmee.

Mary Jane and her husband of 46 years, Curtis, have passed on their love of public service to their four children who also serve the Osceola County community and the Central Florida region in varying capacities. They are also extremely proud grandparents of three grandsons. Mary Jane follows her personal creed of "living each day trying to accomplish something, not merely to exist."



I am happy to honor Mary Jane Arrington, during Women's History Month, for her dedication to the Central Florida community.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF  
DONNA SINES

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Donna Sines, Executive Director and Founder of Community Vision. After a stint in banking, Donna dedicated her life to helping Osceola County, Florida. As Executive Vice President of the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce, she worked to redevelop Downtown Kissimmee, transforming it from a troubled area into a point of pride for the city.

She also launched Leadership Osceola County (LOC) which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. LOC has educated and inspired more than 1200 graduates to contribute to the betterment of their community and make holistic decisions regarding community wellbeing. LOC has hosted programs spanning the spectrum from middle-school kids and teens to senior citizens. Donna was twice recognized by the late Florida Governor Lawton Chiles for programs and projects she oversaw. She also led the effort to restore the Historic Kissimmee train station, the first volunteer project of its kind in Osceola County. A number of community playground builds in economically challenged areas can also be credited to Donna.

In 1995, Donna left the Chamber to start a grass-roots, non-profit organization called Community Vision. Working out of her living room, Donna worked to unite her community in a shared vision. Thousands from all walks of life participated and a movement was born. In 2004, when four hurricanes ravaged Osceola County, including Community Vision's office and her home, Donna oversaw an "unmet needs committee" which raised \$750,000 to help residents restore their homes and lives. Community Vision utilizes a collective impact model in addressing issues. It functions as the umbrella organization bringing the public, private and independent sectors together to develop innovative solutions to complex, systemic problems confronting the Osceola community. Donna's impact can be felt throughout Osceola County. She secures financial resources and volunteer support to take on the impossible.

Donna's touch is most felt when addressing those community issues that affect our most vulnerable and at-risk residents. She secured a \$1.3 million federal grant to provide free primary healthcare to the un- and underinsured through the Mobile Medical Express initiative. Beginning with the Mobile Medical Express, the community developed a secondary care network which includes two free clinics.

Most recently, Donna has focused her efforts on the plight of the homeless. Community Vision offers intensive, career-readiness initiatives to put folks back on payrolls and families on the road to self-sufficiency. Community Vision also has an employment coach for the long-term unemployed and a full time Impact Homelessness Director.

It is her selfless spirit, love of community and "can do" attitude that drives Donna to address those tough challenges and makes her a valued community treasure.

Donna touts her greatest accomplishment as raising and educating her son Derrick, who exemplifies success as a father, husband and bread winner. She is also blessed with beau-

tiful and smart grandchildren, Connor and Kendall, who brighten her world with their love.

I am happy to honor Donna Sines, during Women's History Month, for her many contributions to the Osceola County community.

JOCELIN ALONSO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jocelin Alonso for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jocelin Alonso is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jocelin Alonso is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jocelin Alonso for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING FULL SAIL  
UNIVERSITY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Full Sail University on the occasion of its 35th anniversary. Since its founding in 1979, Full Sail's vision has been to help creative students pursue their dreams in the entertainment industry.

When Full Sail first opened its doors 35 years ago, it aimed to couple traditional classroom work with career-specific development as well as training in real world production studios to propel students into the sound and music industry. As its students' dreams and passions grew, so did the university. Full Sail quickly evolved and now offers 44 unique degrees including animation, games, web design and film. In 2013, Full Sail earned a top ten spot on StudentAdvisors.com's list of "Top 100 Social Media Colleges."

Full Sail University boasts over 42,000 graduates, and is currently providing its 17,000 students with an innovative education to help achieve their goals. Graduates have continued on to companies such as Disney, ESPN and HBO Studios.

I am pleased to recognize Full Sail for its dedication to equipping students for fulfilling careers, and I thank the University for continuing to bolster the educations and passions of future generations.

HONORING MR. DAN KIMBALL

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Dan Kimball, and to congratulate him on his retirement. Mr. Kimball is an outstanding individual who has served as the Superintendent of Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks.

A 27-year veteran of the National Park Service, Mr. Kimball has previously served as Chief of the NPS Water Resources Division. In this capacity he successfully led efforts to settle national park water resources, specifically in the western United States in parks such as Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. Mr. Kimball has also served as Assistant to the National Park Service Deputy Director in Washington, DC, Incident Commander representing the U.S. Department of the Interior, and at the Florida Peninsula Command Post in response to the Deepwater Horizon/BP Oil Spill.

Throughout his career, Mr. Kimball has been recognized for his exceptional work. His vast array of awards includes the Department of the Interior's Superior Service Award, the Pacific Northwest Regional Director's Award for Professional Excellence in Natural Resources, the Southeast Region's Superintendent of the Year Award, the President Rank Award—Meritorious Executive, and the American Recreation Coalition's Legends Award.

Having known Mr. Kimball for a number of years, I know that he has consistently demonstrated the highest degree of integrity, character, and professionalism. He has been dedicated to his career and has worked tirelessly for the protection of our environment and, more specifically for Florida, the preservation of the Everglades. The state of Florida and the nation as a whole have truly been lucky to have such an exceptional individual heading our national parks. Beyond that, over the years I have had the privilege of getting to know Dan on a personal level, and am honored to now call him my friend. I wish nothing but the best for Dan, his wife Kit and their son, and again congratulate him on his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Dan Kimball for his tremendous service to Florida, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL TOP 10 AWARDS CEREMONY OF THE GREATER DETROIT CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Greater Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) as its members gather for the Twentieth Annual Top 10 Awards Ceremony. The Top 10 Awards provides the Greater Detroit Chapter of NAWBO



with an opportunity to recognize women business owners and executives for their outstanding endeavors to expand the influence of women in business.

Chartered in 1980, the Greater Detroit Chapter of NAWBO was founded to further the mission of its national organization in Southeast Michigan region; to expand the access of women to the top echelons of decision-making in social, economic and political endeavors around the world. To execute this mission, the members of NAWBO, both in Detroit and across the country, engaged in an exchange of knowledge and experiences that allowed them to develop and hone their entrepreneurial skills. Specifically, NAWBO sponsors programming that is designed to strengthen the capacity of its members to promote economic development, create innovative and effective change in business culture, build strategic partnerships and influence public policy discussions.

To support these goals and its mission, the Greater Detroit Chapter of NAWBO hosts a number of events like Entrepreneur-YOU, which provides women entrepreneurs with a workshop to support the development of critical skills for creating and running a business; expos that allow members and the community at-large with a chance to build their social and business networks; and the Circle of Learning, which allows members to directly interact with each other in an effort to strengthen their brand, work culture and performance.

The Top 10 Awards allows NAWBO to recognize leading women in business from Southeast Michigan, whose work is expanding the opportunities for women, to be recognized by their peers for their commitment, their vision and, most importantly, their excellence. I am pleased to congratulate this year's winners: Barabara Whittaker, Suzanne Bobbitt, Eva Scurlock, Mary Buchzeiger, Ann Reinman, Jmai Moore, Pamela Smith, Mashell Carissimi, Mary Ann Lievois, Carla Walker-Miller and Shirley R. Stancato, on the remarkable impact they are making on the Greater Detroit community.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Women's History Month and reflect upon the remarkable impact women have made on our country, I am honored to recognize the Greater Detroit Chapter of NAWBO and this year's Top 10 Awards winners for the work they are doing to expand opportunities for women in business. For the last thirty-four years, the members of NAWBO in Southeast Michigan have been at the forefront of supporting women in business and I wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 86 (Cummings Amendment), rollcall No. 87 (Connolly Amendment), rollcall No. 88 (Jackson Lee Amendment) and rollcall No. 89 (Motion to Recommit), which took place Friday, February 28, 2014; I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 90 (Final Passage of H.R. 899), I would have voted "aye."

JULIE VILLEGAS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Julie Villegas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Julie Villegas is a 12th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Julie Villegas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Julie Villegas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

#### CONDEMNING VIOLATION OF UKRAINIAN SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

SPEECH OF

### HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 499, a resolution condemning the violation of Ukrainian sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity by military forces of the Russian Federation.

This resolution is a loud, strong message from this body, the House of Representatives, the People's House, that the people of the United States stand firmly behind the people of Ukraine in their mission to maintain their independence, free from Russian aggression.

Our friends in the world must always have full assurance that we are with them, that our resolve is unshakeable, and that nothing will intimidate us.

This resolution lays out what our game plan looks like as we take concrete steps to back our friends in Ukraine. I want to focus on one key part of this plan: achieving energy independence for Ukraine and the region.

For too long Russia has used the threat of manipulating energy prices and supplies to impose economic and political pressure on Ukraine and other countries. This has got to stop.

We can provide a reliable source of energy to our partners in Europe. Congress is ready to do its part. However, the Obama administration needs to speed up the permit approval process to get liquid natural gas flowing to our friends in Europe, approve the Keystone XL pipeline, and take other pro-American, pro-growth, pro-energy actions. There is truly no better time than now.

We can hit Vladimir Putin where it hurts—in the wallet. We can strengthen Ukraine's hand

in the short run and sell them the fuel they need for the long haul. We can create jobs for American workers—good, meaningful jobs. It just makes sense.

I urge support for H. Res. 499.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,495,622,444,209.79. We've added \$6,868,745,395,296.71 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### RECOGNITION OF SAM SIMON AND THE ACTUAL DANCE

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Samuel A. Simon on the success of his important one man performance, The Actual Dance. By creating and performing this moving and evocative show, Sam has helped to increase awareness about the lesser-known experience of spouses who have lost loved ones to breast cancer, a cruel and devastating disease that continues to affect far too many Americans.

Mr. Simon, a resident of Fairfax County, Virginia, and a close family friend, was inspired to create his one man show when his wife, Susan, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2000. Sam used his family's personal struggle as a source of inspiration to create a one man drama, so that he could educate and mobilize audiences across the country. He first told the story of his spiritual journey at the 2013 Capital Fringe Festival, right here in Washington, DC. Since then he has performed across the Mid-Atlantic and in New York City, where his performance has earned the praise of audiences and critics alike. He was honored with the 2013 Northern Virginia Theater Alliance Award for Best Production of an Original Play, as well as Best Overall Production. The NVTA also nominated Sam for Best Actor, and in New York, the Midtown International Theatre Festival nominated Sam for Best Playwright.

Clearly, Mr. Simon's show is an artistic success. But more than that, by sharing his family's personal experience with breast cancer, Sam has given voice to Americans all across the country who have battled this disease: mothers, sisters, spouses, even Members of Congress. In my home state of Virginia, the number of women diagnosed each year now tops 6,200. Advocates like Sam Simon, who are willing to share their experience and strength, give hope to all the families that suffer because of this terrible disease. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to recognize

the contribution of Samuel A. Simon, wish him heartfelt congratulations on his achievements, and urge him on to even greater artistic excellence.

# RECOGNIZING THE MIAMI BRAIN FAIR

## HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Brain Awareness Week, which runs from March 10–16 of this year.

Brain Awareness Week serves to educate students and the general public on brain science in Miami, and across the country. During this week, neuroscientists around the world educate individuals through informative activities on the wonders of the human brain. These activities contribute to a public understanding of brain function, scientific research, and also bring awareness to the brain disorders and diseases that affect the lives of the nearly 100 million Americans.

In recognition of Brain Awareness Week, I would like to specifically highlight the Miami Brain Fair. At this year's Miami Brain Fair, students from the area will be able to learn about the brain through hands-on activities and participate in either the Brain Bee or Brain Jeopardy competitions. In previous years, over 3,000 children attended the event. This year's event will include five local universities, and over 70 scientists presenting at 30 different exhibits.

Serving as a member of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations, I understand that programs like the Miami Brain Fair play a major role in inspiring the next generation of scientists. It is imperative that we support important educational activities such as the Miami Brain Fair, so that we can continue to improve the lives of the nearly 100 million Americans who suffer from brain-based diseases and disorders.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Brain Awareness Week and I ask my colleagues to join me in observing the contributions that thousands of dedicated scientists are making in the field of brain science.

# MARKING THE THREE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SYRIA

## HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the three-year anniversary of the humanitarian crisis in Syria. This horrific conflict has left over 100,000 people dead, a population roughly the size of Boulder, Colorado. Of those 100,000 casualties of war, 10,000 were children. As I speak, 5.5 million living children are dangerously vulnerable, having "lost lives and limbs, along with virtually every aspect of their childhood," according to the United Nations. And the displacement crisis continues to explode, with some 6.5 million Syrians inter-

nally displaced within their own country and 2.4 million Syrians living as refugees in neighboring countries.

Mr. Speaker, it is easy to become desensitized by numbers of this scale. But these are not merely newspaper headlines. These statistics are made up of real people who had real hopes and real dreams, too many of which have been crushed by war and violence. The international community must draw on the full spectrum of diplomatic and development tools to bring swift, lasting stability to Syria and the surrounding countries. Three years is three years too long. The time for peace is now. We cannot wait a moment longer.

# HONORING CHANG DUK HUH, OWNER OF JOHNNIE'S CHICAGO RED HOTS

## HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a small business owner from Arizona's Seventh Congressional District who has left his indelible mark on the Phoenix Metropolitan Area through his much-beloved "Johnnie's Chicago Red Hots" restaurant.

Chang Duk Huh, also known as "Johnnie," was born in Seoul, South Korea, on February 25, 1953. The eighth of nine children, Chang immigrated to the United States in 1976. By 1978 he and his wife, Hae, settled in the greater Phoenix area where the couple raised their two daughters. Chang and Hae purchased "Johnnie's Chicago Red Hots" in August of 1985 from its original owner, Johnnie Dieffenbach.

In business now for nearly three decades, Johnnie's restaurant is best known for its 100 percent Vienna beef, Chicago-style hot dogs complete with mustard, onions, neon relish, tomatoes, pickles, celery salt and sport peppers encased in a steamed poppy seed bun and served with a side of homemade French fries. The dogs have been featured in a variety of local news publications over the years, including *The Arizona Republic* and the *Phoenix New Times* "Best of" issue. What started out as a tiny three-table restaurant with a handful of bar stools became a Phoenix mainstay that has been frequented by many prominent community figures such as Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, Phoenix Suns Coach Jeff Hornacek, and sports executive Jerry Colangelo.

What really defines the heart and soul of this small mom-and-pop shop, however, has been its loyal patrons through the years. Chang and his wife, Hae, take great pride in their product (Chang has eaten a hot dog for lunch every day for almost 30 years), and the couple has a strong love and appreciation for their customers. They have strived to provide quality food and great service with a smile. They have found great joy in making their customers happy.

I have been one of those happy customers, not just because of the quality food and service, but also because they have allowed me, as their Congressman, to watch them grow their restaurant into a well-respected and thriving eatery. Small businesses are the heart of

America's local economies and they are critical for our Nation's strength. Immigrants have especially driven entrepreneurship and job creation throughout the country, and Chang and Hae are a perfect example of this.

After nearly three decades in business, the establishment sadly closed its doors on February 27, 2014. In recognition of their success, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Chang Duk Huh and his wife, Hae.

# A TRIBUTE TO NICHOLAS LEE

## HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Nicholas Choung Lee, a Los Angeles police officer who selflessly served his community.

Nicholas was born on May 8, 1973, in Seoul, Korea. When he was six years old he moved to California with his father Heung Jae Lee, mother Choung Ja Lee, younger brother Danny, and sister Jenny. They settled in Los Angeles' Koreatown, and Nicholas attended high school in Los Angeles and college at California State University Fullerton. He joined the Los Angeles Police Department on August 31, 1998.

After probationary training, Nicholas transferred first to the Van Nuys Division, and later to the Hollywood Division, where he was assigned to a patrol car. He worked as both a Field Training Officer and Vice Officer in Wilshire, before returning to patrol in the Hollywood Division in 2008. In his 16 years as a police officer, Nicholas received more than 70 commendations. He was recently among the officers featured in a birthday video for a 7-year-old-boy with leukemia, which was just one of the many ways Nicholas constantly demonstrated his selfless desire to help others.

As much as he contributed to Los Angeles as a police officer, everyone who knew him would agree that his family always came first. Nicholas married Cathy Kim in 2001, and they went on to have two daughters, Jalen and Kendall. He could frequently be seen riding a scooter alongside the two girls on their way to school. When the family would have barbecues, Nicholas was always the person serving his family and friends. His wife described him as a great provider and loving husband and father.

Tragically, and much too soon, Nicholas passed away on March 6, 2014, when a truck hit his patrol car in Beverly Hills. He is survived by his wife Cathy, and daughters Jalen and Kendall.

We depend upon the bravery and dedication of police officers every moment of every day, and we often forget the dangers and challenges they face on our behalf. I ask all members to join me in expressing our condolences to the Lee Family and the Los Angeles Police Department and pledge to remember the courage and commitment of Officer Nicholas Lee, a man who cared deeply about his family and the Los Angeles community.

## HONORING BRAD CUMMING

**HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Brad Cumming, a resident of Virginia Beach, Virginia, on the occasion of his retirement from the U.S. Navy's Program Executive Office for Aircraft Carriers after more than 32 years of dedicated service to the federal government.

Mr. Cumming has a long history of service to the aircraft carrier community and has emerged as one of the leaders in lifecycle engineering. His keen leadership, innovation, dedicated teamwork, and proven technical and programmatic expertise were critical to his success in ensuring that *Nimitz* Class Aircraft Carriers are ready to provide 50 years of service defending our national interests.

Mr. Cumming's current duties as the Deputy Program Manager's Representative for the Carrier Planning Activity (CPA), located at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, include oversight of the overall planning, direction and timely execution of CPA's mission to provide centralized aircraft carrier life cycle management and maintenance engineering. Prior to his joining the PEO Carriers Team, Mr. Cumming spent over 26 years with the Engineering Division at Norfolk Naval Shipyard where he progressed from a design engineer for electronics countermeasures to eventually becoming the Planning Yard Division Head.

His post retirement plans include more traveling, spending time with family, gardening and continuing to work with youth through the Young Life Ministry. Mr. Cumming currently lives with his wife Laurie in Virginia Beach.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mr. Cumming. His long and dedicated service to the United States of America is an inspiration to all of us. It is with great pride that I congratulate Mr. Cumming on his retirement and wish him the best of luck in the future.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF COACH DON SHOWS

**HON. VANCE M. McALLISTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. McALLISTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Coach Don Shows, who passed away on Monday, March 3, 2014 at the age of 75.

I am proud to recognize the life of such an accomplished and admirable man, worthy of high recognition. Coach Shows had the pleasure of coaching at four high schools in Louisiana, being named head coach of the West Monroe Rebels in 1989. No stranger to success, Coach Shows led his team to eight state championships during his tenure and was inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in 2011.

Amongst his list of impressive achievements, perhaps the most notable is the life he led both on and off the field, impacting the lives of not only the players he coached, but the student body as well. Many students and

players credit Coach Shows for inspiring their own achievements and success in life.

As we honor his life and legacy today, let us always remember that with dedication, hard work and sacrifice, we can achieve anything. I thank Coach Shows for displaying this valuable lesson and for the pride he has brought to the Fifth District of Louisiana. He was a tremendous leader and example to all who had the honor of knowing him and his example and leadership will remain in our hearts forever.

## JILLIAN BLUE-NORTON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jillian Blue-Norton for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jillian Blue-Norton is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jillian Blue-Norton is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jillian Blue-Norton for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## A RECORD OF SERVICE

**HON. SCOTT H. PETERS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Todd Gloria on his excellent service as San Diego's Interim Mayor.

When Todd stepped in as Interim Mayor, San Diegans needed a leader more than ever. Even during his short tenure, Todd was able to reenergize San Diego's government. He continued his work from his position on the City Council, building the manufacturing and technology sectors, creating more jobs for San Diegans. He also continued developing an innovative solution for San Diego's backlog of infrastructure projects. A true public servant, he has worked diligently at forward-thinking strategies to maintain San Diego as one of America's finest cities.

In addition to his service as Interim Mayor, Todd has served as City Council President since 2013. We share many priorities: ensuring the livelihood of the middle class, protecting our environment in ways that actually address climate change, and keeping infrastructure in San Diego up-to-date and functional. I admire Todd for his commitment to practical solutions and for his ability to get things done.

It came as no surprise in 2013 when he was recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of the nation's most promising young political leaders, a fellowship bestowed on him because of his commitment to sensible and bipartisan governance. I eagerly look forward to Todd's continuing service leading the City Council, and expect him to continue doing great things for San Diego.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Todd Gloria for his hard work for the City of San Diego. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Todd for his excellent service as San Diego Interim Mayor.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 64 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended H.R. 1123) I was unavoidably detained and did not cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted, "yea."

## SUPPORT FOR H.R. 938 AS AMENDED

**HON. MIKE KELLY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 938, the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014.

At a time of regional turmoil and uncertainty, as Iran continues its relentless drive for a nuclear weapons capability, it is absolutely crucial that we stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Israel, our close friend and ally.

H.R. 938 strengthens this key alliance by designating Israel as a "major strategic partner" of the United States. The U.S.-Israel relationship is truly multifaceted and thus this bill expands our cooperation in military and homeland security areas as well as in the areas of trade, energy, water, and agriculture.

Passing this bill will give continued assurance to our ally Israel that the United States is no fair weather friend but is truly a friend for all seasons.

I urge support for H.R. 938.

## REGARDING H.R. 938

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a cosponsor of H.R. 938, the U.S.-Israel Strategic Partnership Act. I want to thank Representatives ROS-LEHTINEN and DEUTCH for their work on this important and broadly bipartisan bill.

H.R. 938 will help strengthen the strategic partnership the U.S. shares with Israel in addition to helping Israel better meet the new security challenges it faces in the region. By enhancing cooperation between the U.S. and

Israel in such areas as intelligence, trade and energy, H.R. 938 continues our commitment to helping Israel maintain its qualitative military edge while creating opportunities for U.S. companies and educational institutions to benefit from the deepening academic and commercial ties that will arise as a result of the bill.

H.R. 938 also addresses homeland security priorities shared by our two countries by encouraging our cooperation against cyber threats and by advocating for the participation of Israel in the Visa Waiver Program—when it has fully met the requirements of membership. Permitting Israel to join the Visa Waiver Program should help reduce paperwork and make travel easier for citizens of both our countries. Membership in the program carries with it the obligation of full reciprocity. To that end, as the process moves forward, the State Department must work with Israel to ensure that all Americans are treated fairly in the program without any discrimination based on ethnicity, religion or race.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT  
HARPER

**HON. VANCE M. McALLISTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. McALLISTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Robert Harper, who passed away on Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at the age of 88 at his home in West Monroe, LA.

Mr. Harper was born on August 9, 1925, in Center, TX. He was an Army Veteran and a World War II Prisoner of War. It is with great respect that I commend the service of this brave man who joined hands with countless others to fight for our great nation. We owe a debt of gratitude to all POWs and MIAs for weathering agonizing uncertainty during such trying times. We, and countless people around the world, are the beneficiaries of their courage, vigilance and bravery.

In addition to his selfless service to our country, Mr. Harper was a faithful servant to Mt. Olive Baptist Church and his family. A devoted husband, father and grandfather, he will be dearly missed by his wife, Ellen, his chil-

dren, grandchildren, friends, and community. It is my hope that today's generation of young men and women will follow the example of patriotism and dedication to freedom set by Mr. Harper.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life of Robert Harper. He was a leader, parent, husband, friend, and example to all of us. Countless lives have been changed for the better by his brave efforts, and he will remain in our hearts forever.

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JEREMY NELSON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jeremy Nelson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jeremy Nelson is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jeremy Nelson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jeremy Nelson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

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SUSPENDING THE INDIVIDUAL  
MANDATE PENALTY LAW  
EQUALS FAIRNESS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2014*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4118, the 50th vote to undermine the Affordable Care Act.

First, let me say, I'm concerned that many Marylanders, including my constituents, are struggling to sign up for health insurance through the state-based Marketplace due to technical issues. With open enrollment coming to a close at the end of the month, I urge the Administration, state governments, and insurance carriers to come together to assist applicants in getting eligibility determinations and enrolling in coverage as soon as possible. I appreciated the guidance provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) last week that would allow consumers the possibility of qualifying retroactive health insurance, tax credits and cost-sharing assistance. It's critical that CMS clarify that those individuals who take retroactive coverage will be protected from any undue penalties for the months prior to the effective date of retroactive coverage.

The bill on the floor today is not about helping Marylanders or any other Americans, but rather about dismantling the Affordable Care Act and putting health insurance further out of reach for them. I want to be clear: the requirement that individuals take responsibility for ensuring they have adequate health insurance coverage was an idea espoused by the Heritage Foundation in the late 1980s. It was carefully crafted and includes exemptions for individuals facing hardships and those who can't afford insurance. Delaying the provision for everyone for a year, according to the Congressional Budget Office, would increase the number of uninsured by one million this year and two million in 2015, and lead to higher premiums. It's obvious that delaying the provision will undermine the protections and reforms that have taken effect and will introduce more instability into market.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House leadership to put an end to these Affordable Care Act repeal votes. We want to work with you to identify parts of the law that can be improved and develop serious solutions. Unfortunately, today's bill is not one of them. I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 13, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## MARCH 25

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Syria after Geneva, focusing on the next steps for United States policy.

SD-419

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities

To receive a closed briefing on challenges to maintaining United States military technology superiority.

SVC-217

## MARCH 26

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the, "Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act".

SD-226

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of The American Legion.

SD-G50

2:15 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine preventing Medicare fraud, focusing on the best way to protect seniors and taxpayers.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold hearings to examine the the current readiness of United States forces in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine strategic forces programs of the National Nuclear Security Administration and the Office of Environmental Management of the Department of Energy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2015 for Tribal Programs.

SD-628

## MARCH 27

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

## APRIL 1

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. European Command and U.S. Transpor-

tation Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities

To hold hearings to examine proliferation prevention programs at the Department of Energy and at the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SR-222

## APRIL 2

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold hearings to examine military construction, environmental, energy, and base closure programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger and the impact on consumers.

SD-226

## APRIL 3

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

## APRIL 10

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-106